

## Claims

1. A mobile communications terminal, comprising:  
means responsive to the commencement of an activity or the running of an  
5 application for adjusting an availability setting, and  
means for reporting the adjusted availability setting to or via a network.
2. A terminal as claimed in claim 1, in which the adjusting means is arranged to  
adjust the availability setting depending on the identity of the application or  
10 the activity.
3. A terminal as claimed in claim 2, in which the availability setting associated  
with at least one application or activity is user definable.
- 15 4. A terminal as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the adjusting means is  
arranged to adjust the availability setting depending on a selected operating  
profile of the terminal.
5. A terminal as claimed in claimed 4, in which the availability setting associated  
20 with at least one operating profile is user definable.
6. A terminal as claimed in claim 2 and claim 4, in which the adjusting means is  
arranged to adjust the availability setting to the highest one of a setting  
associated with the run application or the commenced activity and a setting  
25 associated with the selected operating profile.
7. A terminal as claimed in any preceding claim, in which the adjusting means is  
responsive to the ending of the activity or the ceasing of the running of the  
application to restore the availability setting to its previous setting.  
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8. A terminal as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising means for allowing a  
user to define a different availability setting for a predetermined network user  
or a group of network users to a setting associated with other users.

9. A terminal as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising means for queuing one or more communications received in contravention of an availability setting without revealing the one or more communications to the user.
- 5 10. A terminal as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising means responsive to the receipt of a communication in contravention of an availability setting for automatically sending a reply communication.
- 10 11. A method of setting an availability setting relating to a mobile communications terminal, the method comprising:  
detecting the commencement of an activity or the running of an application;  
and  
in response to a detection:  
15                 adjusting an availability setting; and  
                      reporting the adjusted availability setting to or via a network.
12. A method as claimed in claim 11, in which the adjusting step includes adjusting the availability setting depending on the identity of the application or  
20                 the activity.
13. A method as claimed in claim 12, in which the availability setting associated with at least one application or activity is user definable.
- 25 14. A method as claimed in any of claims 11 to 13, in which the adjusting step includes adjusting the availability setting depending on a selected operating profile of the terminal.
15. A method as claimed in claim 14, in which the availability setting associated  
30                 with at least operating profile is user definable.
16. A method as claimed in claim 12 and claim 14, in which the adjusting step comprises adjusting the availability setting to the highest one of a setting

associated with the one application or the commenced activity and a setting associated with the selected operating profile.

- 5 17. A method as claimed in any of claims 11 to 16, comprising detecting the ending of the activity or the ceasing of the running of the application, and in response to a detection restoring the availability setting to its previous setting.
- 10 18. A method as claimed in any of claims 11 to 17, comprising allowing a user to define a different availability setting for a predetermined network user or a group of network users to a setting associated with other users.
- 15 19. A method as claimed in any of claims 11 to 18, comprising queuing one or more communications received in contravention of an availability setting without revealing the one or more communications to the user.
20. A method as claimed in any of claims 11 to 19, comprising automatically sending in response to the receipt of a communication in contravention of an availability setting a reply communication.